

PATENT (5181-48400/P4500)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Filed Inver Sa Xı	ntor(s): i V. Alla uesi Don nda C. L	ril 21, 2 avarpu eg .ee	l Access Control	<i>ග</i> ග ග ග ග ග ග ග ග ග ග ග ග	the United States Postal S class mail in an envelope for Patents, Washington, D	Unknown  2755 5181-48400  Depression of the street of the			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  Commissioner for Patents  RECEIVED									
Washington, D.C. 20231 FEB 0 8 2002									
Sir:						Technology Center 2100			
	Applic	ant requ	ests consideration of [2]	<b>d</b> the	e references listed on	the attached Form PTO-			
1449 and/or   the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.									
1.	This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:								
	a.	<ul> <li>within 3 months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);</li> <li>within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an International application;</li> <li>before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.</li> </ul>							
	b.		final Office Action	or	Notice of Allowan	or to the mailing date of a ce, and thus:   the or a fee of \$180.00 is			

	c.		after the mailing date of a final Office Acand prior to payment of the issue fee, a paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of	and thus: the certification of				
2.	It is hereby certified:							
		that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or						
		that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.						
3.	$\boxtimes$	Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:						
			U.S. Application Serial No. 09/553,971 U.S. Application Serial No. 09/557,068 U.S. Application Serial No. 09/556,069 U.S. Application Serial No. 09/552,985 U.S. Application Serial No. 09/552,984 U.S. Application Serial No. 09/557,069 U.S. Application Serial No. 09/553,967 U.S. Application Serial No. 09/553,970 U.S. Application Serial No. 09/557,072	(5181-48600) (5181-61100) (5181-46100) (5181-46200) (5181-48200) (5181-48300) (5181-48700) (5181-48500) (5181-61200)				
4.	For ea	ich non	English language reference listed on the	attached Form PTO-1449:				
		reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or						
		reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or						
		reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or						
		reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s), and/or						
		reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:						
5.		Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:						
6		Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.						

The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.
 Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Conley, Rose & Tayon, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5181-48400/RCK.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Kowert Reg. No. 39,255

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application.

Date: Jan. 23, 2002